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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,311	07/11/2001	Kernal Guler	10014420	2098

7590 09/07/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

BASHORE, ALAIN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1762

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 22, 26, 30, 34, 39, 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bansal et al in view of Hogg et al.

Bansal et al discloses a method for determining risk attitudes for bidders. Auction data is analyzed of previously conducted auctions and risk attitudes for bidders is determined (para 0148, 0149, 0123). Additional auctions may be conducted (para 0151).

Bansal et al does not disclose:

determining private information for the bidders submitted in a utility-independent auction.

Hogg et al discloses determining private information for the bidders (para 0022), conducting further auctions to determine sufficient private information (para 0024), and a table (fig 3).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to include determining private information for the bidders submitted in a utility-independent auction because Hogg et al teaches that important information may be gathered from such information in any auction (para 0005) and because Hogg et al teaches variability in information needed (para 0024).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 23-25, 27-29, 31-33, 35-38, 40-41, 43-47 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Allowable subject matter requires a second level review for applications in class 705 before a notice of allowance is mailed to applicant. The time period for review may vary from application to application.

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 7-17-05 regarding the independent claims have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Risk class information gathering is encompassed within the recitation of determining risk attitudes.

***Conclusion***

**6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alain L. Bashore whose telephone number is 571-272-6739. The examiner can normally be reached on about 7:30 am to 5:00 pm (Mon. thru Thurs.).

Art Unit: 1762

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Meeks can be reached on 571-272-1423. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Regarding all Class 705 applications, the management contact regarding examination is: Vincent Millin (SPE, art unit 3624) at 571-272-6747.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Alain L. Bashore  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1762